

Independence and Peace for the Vietnamese People!
YANKEE GO HOME!

VIETNAM

COURIER

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**U.S. AND PUPPET
TROOPS WIPED
OUT SOUTH OF
DEMILITARIZED
ZONE IN 4 DAYS**

**Introduction of
U.S. and Puppet
Troops Into Demi-
litarized Zone :**

**ANOTHER
EXTREMELY
SERIOUS WAR
EXTENSION**

(STATEMENT OF MAY 21, 1967
OF THE D.R.V. GOVERNMENT)

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**OUR UNBENDING
DETERMINATION WILL
FOIL EVERY
NEW U.S. ESCALATION**

ON May 18, 10,000 U.S. and puppet troops invaded the southern part of the demilitarized zone at the 17th parallel. The spokesman of the State Department claimed that it was just a self-defense operation. Indeed the Washington government has a very elastic conception of the defense of its own security. This brings us ten years back to the period when Ngo Dinh Diem during a trip to the United States declared that the frontier of the United States passed by the 17th parallel.

For more than a month now the U.S. airforce has been multiplying its raids on Haiphong and Hanoi. This was in no way a new escalation. Washington declared, but simple to "make Hanoi think". Washington is acting exactly like the Chicago gangster who, to make someone think, opens up with a machinegun on his residence.

We are witnessing brazen international gangsterism. International law is flouted, international conventions are trampled underfoot. The Pentagon is deploying its best divisions, launching its most up-to-date warplanes and bidding the Vietnamese people to capitulate.

Without need to talk big we simply left the Washington bosses: you are mistaken. The Vietnamese people know that there are no manifestations of strength but clear signs of weakness. Ten thousand more men would not change anything in the military situation in South Vietnam where a million troops under U.S. command have these two years been seeking for a victory which always escaped them. To destroy some more factories, hospitals and schools would bring no change to the strategic emphasis in which the U.S. command is getting entangled after escalat-

ing the war to North Vietnam. Nothing has changed except the scale of U.S. losses which keep growing.

Thus, again we want to make this clear to the Washington rulers: nothing can shake the will of the Vietnamese people, in the North and the South alike, to defend their independence and freedom. No use, Mr. Johnson, to look toward Peking or Moscow for some sign of weakening of the Vietnamese resistance. We have been receiving from the socialist countries, the Soviet Union and China in particular, a substantial aid, largely sufficient to meet our needs, but the most important aid we are receiving from the fraternal countries is first of all the support they lend to our policy of independence and freedom. If you hope to seek for some contribution between the aid of the socialist camp and our will to rely first of all on our own powers, you are simply committing a gross mistake. Don't invite the astrologists who turn toward the stars to see what is taking place on our planet. If you want to know how the situation in Vietnam will turn, look in the face of the Vietnamese realities themselves and first of all at the unflinching determination of the Vietnamese people to reject all colonial enslavement, be it a veiled one.

It will be equally vain to seek to discourage us either by loudly affirming or by insinuating that the American people will never bring us the assistance we are expecting. We are fighting, animated and guided by two revolutionary principles which complement and never exclude each other. The first rules that any people who wants to emancipate itself

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**HANOI DOWNED THE 100th
PLANE ON MAY 22**

UP TO MAY 25 1960

U.S. PLANES WERE DOWNED IN NORTH VIETNAM

**FINAL CONCLUSION
OF FIRST FORMAL SESSION OF
BERTRAND RUSSELL INTERNATIONAL
TRIBUNAL**

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NORTH VIETNAM

THE 1960th U.S. PLANE SHOT DOWN, THE 26th U.S. WAR VESSEL SET ABLAZE

THE news about the shooting down of 6 enemy planes in a bitter battle over the southern area of the city at 10:15 a.m. was still ringing the ears of every citizen in the capital like a song in honor of our beloved President Ho Chi Minh's 77th birthday.

At 4 p.m. the alert was again sounded. Hanoi was in full battle array. Silver Mags shot up, circled over the heart of the city. Flaks from the ground let off volleys of black smoke

containing A.A. batteries, and threw up the firebelts while shouting hurrahs. From the shelters in the nearby streets, a tumultuous applause and ovation rose.

Planes were still booming in the suburbs. The battle was on outside the city. I rode at full speed to Le Truc street where a plane had been grounded. The scene was barely 500 yards from the Soviet Embassy. The dead *Phantom* was still blazing. Fire brigades had a tough job trying to

save from fire the most precious souvenir of the capital. Many foreign correspondents and staff members of foreign embassies also rushed to the scene in time with the cameras to shoot the ill-fated *Phantom* and share everybody joy. I interviewed Tran Dan Ich, a tall man with his clothes still dripping wet.

He was one of the first witnesses of the event. "I was standing at my combat post up there when I saw it plummet," he said, pointing to the terrace of a building barely 30 yards away. "It was a real treat for the eyes. For the first time, an aircraft was shot down in the city, and its pilots bailed out in that direction." Ich pointed his finger to the Great Lake, on the western side of the city and said to me, "I saw them wafted in the air. I was sorry I could not be there to catch them myself."

What he was sorry he couldn't do was done by old Hat's family living No. 7, Phat Khe street. An air pirate landed in the back yard of his house. Hat's eldest son, together with his neighbors, armed with sticks overpowered the pilot. Another downed flyer injured in the leg was captured at the edge of the Great Lake.

I made for the areas and heard an account from the street militia of the hunt for U.S. air pirates with immense joy. All of them concluded their stories by saying, "As today is President Ho's birthday, everybody is eager to achieve some feat to honor it."

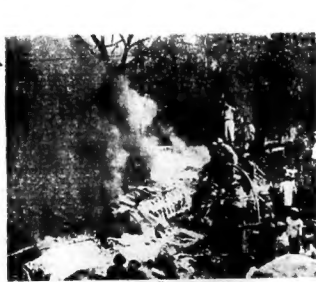
Night was falling. I rode back through the foreign embassies' district. Today U.S. rockets were fired at the Korean Embassy, and they hit the Romanian Embassy for the second time, and other areas in the center of the city as well. The sight of the wreckage of a U.S. *Phantom* lying in Le Truc street called to my mind and

to other Hanoinians' this morning. The deeper their intrusion into our capital, the greater their losses.

That afternoon, 4 enemy planes were brought down over Hanoi by anti-aircraft missile and air force units. The figure was the same whole day of May 19—a record high in the capital so far.



Another U.S. plane downed over Hanoi



A plane crashes in downtown Hanoi, Le Truc street (May 20, 1967)

HANOI SHOOT DOWN THE 100th PLANE

In its attack against U.S. air raids, Hanoi downed the 100th and 101st plane on May 22, 1967.

In the U.S. new escalation from April 24, it shot down 43 planes in 13 battles. The greatest victories were 8 planes on May 5, 5 on May 14, 10 on May 19 and 5 on May 21. In these attacks the U.S. forces lost one colonel, two lieutenant-colonels and one major.

At a press conference on May 20, the spokesman of the V.P.A. High Command issued a statement pointing out that in the period from April 19 to May 19, North Vietnam had shot down 293 planes, damaged many others and captured many American airmen.

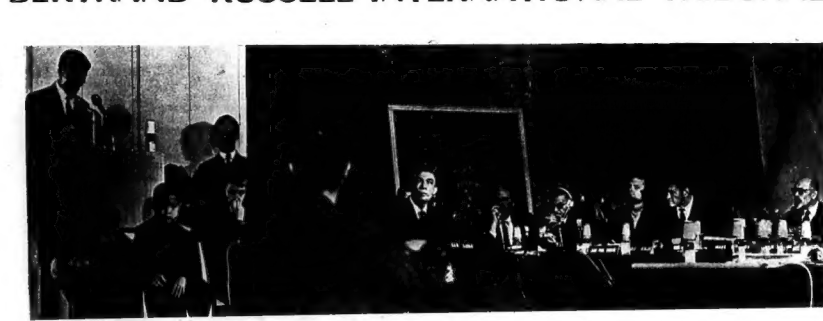
At the same conference, the military spokesmen also announced the big victory won on May 19, 1967 by the capital city which shot down 10 planes and made known the identity cards of five American airmen among those downed and killed on that day: William R. Stark, Lt. Com. James L. Griffin, Lt. Com. Jack N. Walters, Lt. Joseph Ch. Plumb, Jr. Lt. Gareth L. Anderson, Jr. Lt.

Washington itself has acknowledged part of these defeats. According to AP on May 5, General John P. McConnell, Chief of Staff of the U.S.A.F. admitted that Hanoi and Haiphong had the most concentrated A.A. fire never seen in the defense of any city or area in the world, while Gen. George H. Souter, deputy head of its Operation Dept. said that the defense system of North Vietnam was the most terrible and most complete his men had never met in any other war.

FIVE AMERICAN ARMEN DOWNED OVER HANOI ON MAY 19, 1967.

Left to right: —William R. Stark, Lt. Col. —James L. Griffin, Lt. Col. —Jack N. Walters Lt. —Gareth Laverne Anderson, Jr. Lt. —Joseph Charles Plumb, Jr. Lt.

FINAL CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST FORMAL SESSION OF THE BERTRAND RUSSELL INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL



A session of the Tribunal

DURING its session held in Stockholm from May 2 to 10, 1967, the international tribunal on war crimes passed a resolution of December, 1966, that all peoples have the fundamental rights to national independence, sovereignty and respect for the integrity of their territory and that encroachments on these fundamental rights should be considered as crimes against the national existence of a people.

Had there been, and on what scale, bombardments of objectives of a purely civilian character and, more particularly, of hospitals, sanatoria, dams, etc.

After having heard the statements from qualified representatives of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and taking note of the formal refusal of the Government of the U.S.A. to make known its viewpoint and thus, in spite of the various appeals addressed to it.

After having heard various reports, experts and numerous witnesses among whom are the members of investigation missions it had sent to Vietnam itself, as well as Vietnamese citizens victims of the war.

After having taken stock of many reports, many verbal, photographic and cinematographic documents as well as numerous samples of evidence, and having decided on the publication of the whole of its documentation.

After having heard the recapitulative report of Mr. Lelio Russo, which was very precious for it, I estimate to be able to take the following decision on the first question:

The recourse to force in international relations has been prescribed by numerous international accords, of which the principal is the Paris Pact of 1928, called Briand-Kellogg Pact.

The Charter of the United Nations, in its Article 23, solemnly recalls this same principle the day after the Second World War.

a plot for the accomplishment of any of the said acts.

Finally, it should be recalled, as was done by the U.N. resolution of December, 1966, that all peoples have the fundamental rights to national independence, sovereignty and respect for the integrity of their territory and that encroachments on these fundamental rights should be considered as crimes against the national existence of a people.

The access to independence and national existence of the Vietnamese people dated back to September 2, 1945, this independence was again called into consideration by the former colonizing power. The national liberation war, then carried out, ended in the victory of the Vietnamese army.

The Geneva Agreements of July 20-21, 1954 destined to put an end to the previous conflict, created in Vietnam a *de jure* state, which commanded respect to all, and notably the U.S. These accords recognize the guarantees of independence, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam (Articles 6 and 7 of the Final Declaration). If it was expressly stipulated that this into two parts at the 17th parallel, it was expressly stipulated that the military questions, had a provisional character and "should not in any way be interpreted as constituting a political or territorial boundary" (Article 6 of the Final Declaration).

The Geneva Accords provided that general elections should have taken place in the whole country in July 1956, under the control of an international commission, and that consultations on this matter should have been held between the competent representative authorities of the two zones from July 1955.

These accords expressly ruled out all reprisals or discrimination against persons or organizations on account of their activities during the previous hostilities (Article 14 of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities). They formally prohibited the introduction of fresh troops, military personnel, arms and munitions as well as the setting up of military bases (Article 16 of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities).

This state of law destined to create a peaceful situation in Vietnam was replaced by a state of war following the successive violations of the various above-mentioned provisions of the Geneva Accords.

For the reasons to be outlined hereunder, the Tribunal considers that the responsibility for these violations and for the switch-over to the state of war rests with the government of the United States of America.

According to *Notre information* of a historic and diplomatic character brought to the knowledge of the Tribunal:

There exist numerous proofs of the American intention of laying hold on Vietnam prior to 1954.

The Dien Bien Phu was installed in Saigon by American services a few weeks before the conclusion of the Geneva Accords.

The Saigon authorities, dependent on the U.S., systematically violated the provisions of the Geneva Accords prohibiting reprisals, as established on many occasions by the International Control Commission.

In disregard of the Geneva Accords, the U.S. has, since 1954, introduced military material and personnel into Vietnam in increasingly important quantities, and established bases there.

The elections scheduled for July 1956 and calling for consultations in July 1955 have not taken place in spite of numerous diplomatic notes of the Government of the D.R.V., urging such consultations. Reports from the U.S. made it possible to charge on that country the refusal by Saigon to respect the most essential provision of the Geneva Accords.

Thus a situation of foreign armed intervention was created in South Vietnam, against which the Vietnamese people had to wage a struggle for national liberation in the form of an armed struggle from that date, struggle over which the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front took leadership from 1959, succeeding in controlling areas considerably larger than those controlled by the U.S.

This attack against the South was followed by the attack against the North, started in 1964 and intensified since 1965 in the form of air

bombings as well as ground and naval bombardments in the conditions which were the object of the second question studied by the Tribunal. The U.S. has not ceased increasing the violence of these attacks, by practising what it calls escalation policy.

The Tribunal made a point of scrupulously examining the arguments advanced in official American documents to justify the legality of their intervention in Vietnam. Particular attention was given to the document entitled *Insidious Menace to the Legality of the Participation of the U.S. in the Defense of Vietnam*, document presented on March 4, 1966 to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The essential argumentation formulated by this text consists in pretending that American intervention in Vietnam constitutes only a simple aid to the Saigon government against an aggression from the North. Such argumentation is untenable both *de jure* and *de facto*. *De jure*, it hardly needs recall that Vietnam is one and a single nation whom one could not understand how she would commit aggression against herself.

De facto, not a single proof of this so-called aggression has been produced so far. The figures released on the infiltrations of the personnel of the North into the South, often contradictory, confusing armed and unarmed persons, are quite contestable and at all events, could in no way justify the excuse of legitimate defense as provided for by Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, which, after all, none of the other conditions could sustain.

From the foregoing, it can be concluded that the U.S. must bear the responsibility for the use of force in Vietnam and that it has, consequently, committed against this country a crime of aggression, a crime against peace.

It has thus violated the provision of international law, banning the use of force in international relations, notably the Paris Pact of 1928, called Briand-Kellogg Pact, of which it was however the initiator and the U.N. Charter (Art. 2, Para. 4). This violation of these general principles was followed by the violation of particular agreements relating to the territory in question—

(Continued page 6)



D.R.V. FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT OF MAY 7, 1967

The British Authorities Must Stop Repressing Chinese Workers and Population in Hongkong

RECENTLY, the employers of the Hongkong artificial flower works fraudulently closed a branch of the works and ordered massive dismissal of its workers.

To defend their legitimate interests, Chinese workers in Hongkong held demonstrations to protest against these brutal acts of the employers at the artificial flower works.

The British authorities in Hongkong sent out more than one thousand soldiers and fully-armed police for savage repression of Chinese workers and other people in Hongkong, arrested more than 100 others and killed one youth. This fascist act trampled upon the interests of the Chinese nationals in Hong-

the war of aggression in Vietnam.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam fully supports the stand of the Chinese Government expounded in the statement issued on May 15, 1967 by the Foreign Ministry of the Chinese People's Republic.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam resolutely demands that the British government stop at once its persecution of Chinese workers and Chinese nationals in Hongkong, release those still detained, make excuses and compensate the workers for the losses caused to them, severely punish those responsible and take effective measures to ensure the legitimate interests of the workers and prevent the recurrence of similar acts in the future.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS



ARRIVED in Vietnam for friendly visits: The delegation of Norway Committee of Solidarity with Vietnam led by its President, Ivan Brendemur.

The delegation of the Cuban Trade Union Federation led by Real Fonteller, executive committee member of the organization.

The delegation of Hungarian Women, led by Mrs. Nemes Irén, editor-in-chief of Hungarian Women.

Mongol writer Bokhin Baatar, executive committee permanent member of the Mongol Writers' Association.

The delegation of Rumanian cameramen, specialists in newsreels and documentary films, led by film director Pavlen Constantinescu.

The exhibition of sketches "The Man and His Country" made by South Vietnam artists opened in Havana on May 5, 1967.

The Vietnam Journalists' Association organized in Hanoi a ceremony for the handing to the paper-presses of the 1st Vietnam Army by G.D.R. Journalists of the Franz Mehring insignia, which is decorated with the mark of the D.R.R. press.

Foreign Press Opinion

U.S. NEW WAR ESCALATION CONDEMNED

"The occupation of the southern area of the demilitarized zone by big forces of the U.S. interventionists and the bombing of Hanoi are new crimes of serious consequences in the U.S. war escalation in Vietnam and an outright violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

"Like all the peace-loving people in the world, the Soviet people indignantly condemned these criminal provocations of the U.S. South Vietnam. The Soviet Union has afforded assistance to the brother Vietnamese people's struggle against the imperialist aggression of the U.S."

Pravda, U.S.S.R., May 20, 1967

"The Johnson administration strikes frenziedly anew at Hanoi with the hope of compelling the Vietnamese people to capitulate. But each U.S. raid only increases its blood debt toward the Vietnamese. Far from being intimidated, the heroic Vietnamese people nurture a deeper hatred for it. The American aggressors believe they can offset their defeat on the battlefield by stepping up the bombing of Hanoi. Impossible. It is only a dream of the Johnson administration which can never materialize."

Renmin Ribao, China, May 21, 1967

"The introduction of U.S. troops into the demilitarized zone is a serious step in the war escalation of the U.S. and a brazen provocation of the Vietnamese people. The Korean people energetically condemn this criminal provocative action of the U.S. imperialists."

Rodong Sinmun, Korea, May 21, 1967

"The sending of U.S. troops to the demilitarized zone is a blatant ignominious challenge to the socialist camp, the anti-imperialist forces in the world and all peace-loving people of Asia and the world over."

Akahaia, Japan, May 21, 1967

CONCLUSION...

the greatest number of persons among the civilian population.

The Tribunal has asked medical experts to study the consequences of the victims of these still pellets. The pellets penetrated into the human body in a long and irregular channel and caused, apart from the fatal cases, multiple and different types of internal lesions. The Hague Convention No 4 of October 18, 1907 has laid down the principle that the belligerents cannot have an illimitable right as to the choice of means to reach their adversary (Article 22). The same convention particularly prohibits the use of weapons, projectiles or material deliberately intended to cause unnecessary suffering (Article 23), the attack or bombardment by whatever means of towns, villages, dwellings or constructions that are not defended (Article 25). During the bombardments, all necessary measures must be taken as far as it is possible to spare the constructions and systems of communication. What is more, the official book (Department of the Army Field Manual) entitled "The Law of Land Warfare" published by the War Department of the United States in 1956, refers in 27-10, recalls all the above-said provisions as having a compulsory character for all members of the U.S. army.

Consequently the Tribunal holds that by submitting the demilitarized zone to the bombing of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to an intense and systematic bombardment, the United States of America has committed a war crime. Apart from a general condemnation of this war crime, the Tribunal declares that the fragmentation bombs of the C.B.U. type which have been used by the U.S. troops in other use than to hit as many civilians as possible, must be considered as weapons prohibited by the Law and practices of war.

Faced with the resistance of a people determined to exercise peacefully

the Geneva Convention of August

VIETNAM COURIER

On the Occasion of the Week of Solidarity with the African Peoples

AFRICAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND OLD AND NEW COLONIALISM STEPPED UP

carry out a policy of active neutrality, non alignment, opposition to imperialism, old and new colonialism, and the establishment of a sovereign economy, such as the United Arab Republic, the Congo (Brazzaville), Tanzania, Mauritania, Guinea, Mali, Algeria, for the African peoples have clearly realized the perfidious manoeuvres of the imperialists, especially the U.S., and have vigorously opposed them.

The struggle against imperialism, old and new colonialism in Africa is an important link of the world people's movement against the imperialists led by the U.S.

for national independence, peace democracy and social progress.

The Vietnamese people warmly hail the resolution of the Tricontinental Solidarity Organization for opening a Week of Solidarity with the African peoples from May 12 to 18. We sincerely hope the African peoples will support to our people's struggle against American aggression, for national salvation. We wish that the Vietnamese people would achieve still greater success in their glorious revolutionary cause in order to liberate the whole of Africa.

The Demilitarized Zone...

(Continued page 5)

But the sending of troops to the demilitarized zone with the only purpose of mopping up what areas would solve nothing, like other raiding operations. If a defense line was set up in the southern part of the Ben Ha river, the U.S. troops would avoid the attack on the South Vietnamese battlefield, being repelled by the U.S. troops, which would be compelled to cope with the situation in many areas while the U.S. troops would mopping up operations where the U.S. troops could find manpower to fight the I.A.F.

The passive and embarrassing position of the provinces pertaining to the First Army Corps is the most vivid illustration of the U.S. position on the South Vietnamese battlefield. Being repelled by the U.S. troops, which would be compelled to cope with the situation in many areas while the U.S. troops would mopping up operations where the U.S. troops could find manpower to fight the I.A.F.

and freely its right to fall independence and the integrity of its territory (Resolution of the United Nations, Dec. 14, 1960) the government of the United States of America has given to these war crimes, by their magnitude and frequency, the character of crimes against humanity (Article 6 of the Nuremberg Statute).

These crimes could not be considered as the only consequence of a war of aggression, the pursuit of which is conditioned by them.

In view of the systematic recourse to them with a view to negating the fundamental rights of the Vietnamese people, their unity and their wish for peace, these crimes against humanity of which the Government of the United States of America is guilty have become a fundamental component part of the U.S. aggression, supreme crime encompassing all the others, according to the terms of the Nuremberg judgment.

Conclusion of the Tribunal:

1. Has the Government of the United States committed acts of aggression against Vietnam in terms of international law?
2. Yes, in unanimity.
3. Has there been bombing of purely civilian targets, for instance hospitals, schools, health establishments, dams, etc., and if any, to what extent?
4. Yes, in unanimity.

We come to the conclusion that

the government and the armed forces of the United States are guilty of deliberate, systematic and large-scale bombardments of civilian targets including the civilian population, dwellings, houses, villages, dams, dykes, health establishments, hospitals, schools, churches, pagodas, historical and cultural monuments, and so on, in unanimity.

except one conclusion, that the government of the United States of America is guilty of violations of the sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia, Laos, North Vietnam, South Vietnam, New Zealand and South Korea have been accomplices of the United States in the aggression of the United States which is carried out in violation of international law.

Yes, in unanimity.

Moreover, there is, also the question to see whether or not the governments of Thailand and other neighboring countries have been accomplices of the acts of aggression or other crimes against Vietnam and her people. We have not the time to examine this during the present session. We would examine the juridical aspects of this question in a future session of incriminated facts at our future session.

The President of the Tribunal
Jean Paul Sartre
Stockholm, May 10, 1967
(Translated from the French)

News from CAMBODIA

HEAD OF STATE NORODOM SIHANOUK: The U.S. is the sole author of the bloodshed in South Vietnam

IN an interview with BTA, Bungan news agency, Head of State Norodom Sihanouk pointed out that the U.S. is the sole author of the bloodshed in South Vietnam. We shall continue to expose the crimes of the U.S. aggressors in both North and South Vietnam.

Condemning the aggression of the U.S. and its South Vietnamese lackeys against Cambodia, he said, "The reported attacks by aircraft and army on the borders of Cambodia are not only a threat but violation of the independence and neutrality of Cambodia and a crime against the people."

Head of State Norodom Sihanouk energetically denounced that the U.S. had supported their valets in Thailand and supplied machine and weapons to the Khmer Serei to carry out subversive plots in Cambodia.

(continued from page 5)

Vietnam—that is the Geneva Accord of July 1953).

By this, the U.S. has incontestably committed a crime against peace, in the sense of Article 9 of the Statute of Nuremberg, a provision sanctioned by international jurisprudence (judgment of Nuremberg and Tokyo) and recognized as international law binding on all by the unanimous resolution of the United Nations of December 11, 1946.

In addition, the U.S. has committed a crime against the fundamental rights of the Vietnamese people.

It is necessary to add that the countries, such as South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand, which have provided in one form or another, and of any kind to U.S. aggression, are found guilty of being accomplices.

The Tribunal paid attention to the situation in Cambodia. It heard the report of the investigation missions it had sent to that country as well as the deposition of a qualified representative of the Cambodian Army Staff. It considers that the armed forces of the U.S., the U.S. governments dependent on it in Bangkok and Saigon have indulged in constant and savage acts of aggression against the Kingdom of Cambodia, aggression constituting not only a violation of Cambodian neutrality and its independence but also extremely serious threats to peace in South East Asia and the world.

The Tribunal notes with conviction

that the aerial, naval and ground bombardment of civilian targets and the civilian population bear a massive, systematic and deliberate character.

The massive character of these bombardments has been confirmed by the information from American sources relating to the quantity of bombs released and to the number of aircraft sorties.

The systematic and deliberate character of the bombardment of civilian targets has been established by numerous evidence proving that in the vast majority of cases they are preceded by reconnaissance flights. An American source disclosed that the aircraft stationed at one base in Thailand alone has been using every month up to 30,000 meters of film to photograph Vietnam. The delirious on the one hand the fact that most of the aircraft are equipped with devices allowing the automatic recording of the bombing, on the other, that the planes return with insistence and eagerness on the same targets which have sometimes been almost completely destroyed, there can be no possible doubt as to the intention to hit the aimed targets.

In addition to aerial bombings, the intensive artillery shelling by the 17th Fleet has ravaged the coastal areas more and more. All the witnesses who have spoken and especially the members of the investigation commission have confirmed that most of the civilian targets (hospitals, schools, churches, pagodas) are very obvious and can be easily distinguished from the rest of the Vietnamese landscape.

The magnitude of the bombardment is considerable and the Tribunal has instructed its investigation commissions to undertake a minute study of the results published by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Utilizing the method of probing, these commissions have been able to verify in the places of their choice all the information received. Thus, concerning the health establishments for instance, out of the 45 establishments reported destroyed by the Vietnamese war crimes investigation commission, 35 have been verified by the investigation commissions of the Tribunal. These probes are all valid thanks to their dispersion. The 35 hospitals examined correspond to 36 provinces out of the 12 concerned with the bombings.

Apart from numerous particular evidence which has been submitted to it, the Tribunal has heard general report on the destruction of various categories of civilian targets such as hospitals, schools, places of worship (churches or pagodas), dykes as well as the bombardment of the civilian population in urban centres and countryside. It has also heard a synthetic report on the bombardments of the provinces of Nhe An and Thanh Hoa. All these reports were accompanied with documents, testimony and evidence.

The Tribunal notes the vital character of the dykes and other hydraulic projects for Vietnamese people and the great danger of famine which the attempts of destruction by the U.S. forces pose to the civilian population.

These weapons which are to all intents and purposes designed to hit the defenceless population have the following characteristics:

The Tribunal has received all necessary information on the diversity and power of the weapons used against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The pellets are of different utilization (high-power explosive bombs, napalm bombs, phosphorous bombs, fragmentation bombs...) have times of serious napalm burns appeared before the Tribunal and medical analyses concerning these victims have been furnished.

The Tribunal has paid particular attention to the collection of many kinds of anti-personnel weapons (bombs or bullets in Vietnamese terminology).

These weapons which are to all intents and purposes designed to hit the defenceless population have the following characteristics:

FINAL

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Faced with the resistance of a people determined to exercise peacefully

the Geneva Convention of August

VIETNAM COURIER

QUANG-TRI: 2,000 U.S. and Puppet Soldiers Wiped Out South of Demilitarized Zone in 4 Days.

BIEN-HOA: A Column of Tanks and Armoured Cars Destroyed.

SAIGON: A Military Train Overturned.

GPX (Liberation Press Agency) reports that in 4 days ending May 21 the L.A.F. hammered at the spearheads of the enemy and punished his helicopter carriers and L.C.T.s.

On May 18 alone, the L.A.F. at Gio Linh and Cam Lo put out of action 1,000 enemies, burnt 4 tanks, 2 armoured carriers and shot down and set afire 5 aircraft

(1 chopper, 3 C-123 transports and one F4A jet).

For 3 days running from May 19, while the enemy had not yet secured a solid foothold, the L.A.F. of these localities repeatedly attacked the enemy everywhere, wiping out 1,000 enemy troops, set afire 5 tanks and Mi-19 armoured cars, downed one chopper, sank 8 war vessels and craft. Especially on May

20, the L.A.F. and guerrillas at Gio Linh gave 6 battles fending the raids of the U.S. and puppet troops launched to pillage and concentrate the people.

According to still incomplete figures, from May 18 to 21 the L.A.F. killed and wounded 2,000 enemies, including a major and the captain commanding puppet Paratroop Battalion 9, set

afire 9 armoured vehicles, downed and burnt 6 planes and helicopters, sank 8 war vessels and set afire many fuel depots and ammunition dumps.

Western sources disclose that U.S. losses were heavy. On May 19, *UPI* reported that 250 marines were sent to Dong Ha first aid station in one day.

Another *GPX* dispatch informed that on the night of May 17, that is before the landing of enemy troops on the demilitarized zone, the L.A.F. shelled the bases of U.S. marines at Dong Ha, the gun emplacement, the radio network and signal centres, thus causing serious damage to the enemy; while attacking the Yankees at Doc Mieu and Con Tien, the L.A.F. intercepted the enemy columns raiding the northwest of Gio Linh district. In these battles about 1,000 enemies were put out of action.

BIEN-HOA

WESTERN sources reported that on May 21, 1967 at 8 a.m. a formation of tanks and armoured cars of U.S. Armoured Regiment II was intercepted and annihilated by the L.A.F. Laying ambush very close to the road side, the L.A.F. destroyed 1 armoured car, 1 jeep, 1 M-48 32-ton tank, a lorry and damaged 2 armoured cars. *AP* said that the L.A.F. rapidly annihilated the convoy and withdrew quickly. 15 G.I.s were killed or wounded. Three G.I.s managed to run away.

SAIGON

On May 19, one enemy military train was overturned by mines planted by the guerrillas near Tan Son Nhut airfield in front of the C.P. of the puppet general staff.

THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE TURNED INTO A BATTLEFIELD

On July 18, tens of thousands of U.S. and puppet troops intruded into the demilitarized zone and aimed up the flames of war there. What did this painful and venturesome move reveal?

The U.S. paper *Christian Science Monitor* on April 17, 1967 gave a gloomy picture of the U.S. military situation in the provinces close to the 17th parallel.

"The initiative has passed to the hands of the enemy. They have blown the bridges between Da Nang and Quang Tri, thus cutting the front-line outposts of the First U.S. Marine Division from their main base. They have attacked Quang Tri with heavy mortars. So heavy is the enemy pressure on the American advanced positions that the marines have called for reinforcements."

This situation still progressed after Westerners had found that had gathered from Nam Bo, the Western Highlands and other places to reinforce the demilitarized zone with a division of combat troops.

Long-term engagements broke out in Khe Sanh from April 24 to May 3, 1967. The L.A.F. had selected Khe Sanh basin and Hills 881 and 90 to drive the U.S. troops there, engaged them in 50 bloody encounters that Western opinion said that they were the gloomy picture of a small Dien Bien Phu for the U.S. After having put out of action some 1,500 U.S. troops here, since May 11, into the L.A.F. close to directly strike at a rather strong point in the U.S. defence system on Highway 9 in Con Tien.

A tight encirclement by the L.A.F. for 4 days running

foiled all attempts of the U.S. troops to get out or to come in for rescue from outside. *UPI* reported on May 17 that relief units supported by tanks could cover only 400 yards in day. Con Tien had become an ulcer on the frail and weakening body of the U.S. marines. Meanwhile, on the eve of May 18, the L.A.F. violently pounded U.S. strongholds in Dong Ha. The U.S. command was fully aware that after their fiasco in the last dry season, they were facing the danger of being attacked by the L.A.F. from one or another direction. To retrieve the situation, sizeable U.S. and puppet forces have been poured into the demilitarized zone to carry out mopping-up operations there, in spite of serious political consequences arising from such a move before world opinion.

(Continued page 7)

Buddhists Struggle Again

"I feel a great pity for my country's present situation."

"You the U.S. have dropped so many tons of bombs and money on people's heads to destroy their bodies and minds."

"Don't you know that in their inner self the Vietnamese people hate the Americans who have brought war to this country?"

"The more the war escalates, the more the man-power and wealth you pour to this country, but you are just harvesting a bitter failure."

So said a letter addressed to U.S. President Johnson and left by the woman teacher Thi Mai, a Buddhist follower who burned herself to death at Tu Nghiem Pagoda on May 16 to protest against U.S. rulers for their prolongation of the "aggressive war in Vietnam."

The letter calls for a halt to bombing in both North and South Vietnam and the withdrawal of U.S. troops to let the Vietnamese people decide their fate for themselves.

This thrilling event opened the Week of Buddha's birthday celebrations in the spirit of protecting Buddhism

and defending the Fatherland against U.S. aggression. This was followed by a 3-day fast beginning on May 20 by 200 Buddhist monks and nuns at An Quang Pagoda in the Saigon-Cholon area. On May 23, from this pagoda 10,000 Buddhists marched through Saigon streets.

In 1963, on the same occasion, Diem Nhu committed towering crimes against Buddhists. In 1966, during the celebrations of Buddha's birthday, the struggle against the U.S. and Thieu-Ky clique reached its climax in the central provinces and in Saigon. People still remembered that Diem, Nhu had sent troops to attack Xa Lo Pagoda and that the Thieu-Ky clique had used aircraft, artillery and tanks to assault Truoi Hai and Phu Da Pagodas in Da Nang and Tu Dam and Dien De Pagodas in Hue. They also raised the Buddhist flag and tore up Buddhist flags. Many Buddhist followers had been dismembered during the Summer 1966 campaign led by the Thieu-Ky clique.

This year's celebrations of Buddha's birthday in Saigon show that violence and deception by the U.S. and its lackeys have failed to bring the people as well as Buddhists in South Vietnam into submission.

A BRUTAL LARGE-SCALE CONCENTRATION OF THE INHABITANTS

To carry out their plan of setting up a "white zone" south of the provisional military demarcation line at the end of April and beginning May, the Yankees and quislings did their best to resort to violence combined with bribery and seduction to coerce over 10,000 people to live in camouflaged concentration camps around their bases at Dong Ha. Apart from frequent terror raids, they tried to shake the morale of the population by artillery pounding and bombing by aircraft, including B-52s. But all their raids yielded no result. *Reuter* reported on May 16, 1967 that only three families had accepted to go while the rest came out against the persecution of the enemy who tried to move them away. The inhabitants made it clear that

they did not want to part from their villages and rice-fields. The same news agency disclosed that after this move, an American high-ranking officer had threatened: should this attempt fail, he would launch an operation to sweep the village away.

And this has come true. On May 18, while tens of thousands of G.I.s and puppet troops entered the demilitarized zone, the U.S. command carried out the concentration job with all its cruelty. According to a *UPI* dispatch of May 19, high-explosive bombs totalling 500,000 lbs had been dropped on an area 15 miles long by 3 miles wide in preparation for a "sweep" and low flying jets fired rockets and dropped napalm on these localities. In Heller, correspondent of this news agency, admitted on May 20 that

American troops had sworned on to burn and destroyed villages. He had seen in an underground shelter 16 women and children in a distressed situation. A 16 years old girl had her legs shattered by bomb splinters; an old woman and a 6 years old girl burnt by napalm were dying. According to the same sources 2,500 people, mostly women and children had been forced away.

The herding of ten thousands and people in concentration camps by the most cruel method is a political failure of the Americans and quislings. It is called "CONCENTRATION CAMP" and "RECONCENTRATION CAMP" because it is a concentration camp for the people for a policy they had opposed.

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